

REMARKS

In the Official Action, the Examiner allowed claims 7-9, rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) on anticipation grounds over EP 1,055,421, and objected to claim 10, but indicated that such claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The allowance of claims 7-9 and the indicated allowability of claim 10 are greatly appreciated. By the present Amendment, claim 4, which relates to a lubricant composition, has been amended to recite the additional presence of a lubricant base oil. This further recitation is supported by the specification such as in the last paragraph of page 4 and the first paragraph of page 5. A lubricant base oil is also used in the Examples starting on page 48 of the specification.


The cited EP '421 publication relates to a cosmetic or dermatological composition. As such, the presently claimed lubricant composition of claim 4 with the recited lubricant base oil is not anticipated by this document. Moreover, one of ordinary skill in the art would not attempt to use a component from a cosmetic or dermatological composition with a lubricant base oil. Accordingly, amended claim 4 is believed to be a patentable over the cited prior art.

The present Amendment also submits new method claim 11 which defines a method of lubricating comprising applying to sliding parts at least one compound selected from the group represented by formula (3). The application to sliding parts is disclosed in the specification at least on page 1, paragraph one and on page 42, lines 11-15. It will be noted that formula (3) is the same formula that is found in claim 4 and the general structure of formula (3) is found in the previously allowed claims. Accordingly, since all the claims now of record are believed to be patentable in all respects, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the subject application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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